

Message Text

SECRET

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10

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

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R 201815Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1971

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USUN NEWYORK 6464

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

S E C R E T PARIS 19968

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, UR, UN

SUBJECT: ZAYYAT VISIT TO PARIS; EGYPTAIN INTENTIONS AT UNSC

DEPT PASS USINT CAIRO

REF: PARIS 19764

1. EMBOFF JULY 19 CALLED ON QUAI DIRECTOR MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS DE COMMINES FOR BRIEFING ON RECENTLY CONCLUDED ZAYYAT VISIT TO PARIS. ACCORDING TO DE COMMINES, FOCUS OF DISCUSSIONS WITH FRENCH OFFICIALS WAS ON FORTHCOMING UNSC DEBATE. PALESTINIAN ISSUE DID NOT COME UP. WHILE ZAYYAT DID NOT DISCUSS DRAFT LANGUAGE FOR POSSIBLE RESOLUTION, HE MADE IT CLEAR TO GOF THAT HE COULD NEITHER ACCEPT CONSENSUS PROCEDURE NOR SIMPLE REAFFIRMATION OF RESOLUTION 242. WHAT EGYPTIANS SEEK IS REAFFIRMATION PLUS REFERENCE TO TERRITORIAL ELEMENTS OF JARRING MEMORANDUM NOTING POSITIVE EGYPTIAN RESPONSE THERETO. DE COMMINES SAID GOF WOULD SUPPORT EGYPTIANS IF RESOLUTION OF THIS KIND PUT FORWARD. EMBOFF NOTED GRAVE PROBLEMS SUCH A RESOLUTION WOULD POSE FOR USG AND OUR FIRM POSITION NOT TO ACCEPT RESOLUTION WHICH MODIFIED 242.

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2. EMBOFF ASKED DE COMMINES FOR HIS ASSESSMENT OF SOVIET POSITION. DE COMMINES THEN READ FROM TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM FRENCH EMBASSY MOSCOW REPORTING CONVERSATION BETWEEN AMBASSADOR VIMONT AND MIDDLE EAST COUNSELOR PYRLIN. PYRLIN REPORTEDLY TOLD VIMONT THAT SOVIETS, IN ORDER TO BE RECEPTIVE TO EGYPTAIN WISHES, HAD BEEN UNWILLING TO ACCEPT REFERENCE TO RESOLUTION 242 IN BREZHNEV-NIXON COMMUNIQUE WITHOUT REFERENCE TO JARRING MEMORANDUM. NONETHELESS, DE COMMINES SAID EGYPTIANS WERE DISSAPPOINTED WITH LACK OF DYNAMISM IN SOVIET MIDDLE EAST POLICY AND RELATIVELY LUKE WARM NATURE OF THEIR SUPPORT FOR ARAB POSITION.

3. IN FURTHER ELABORATION OF FRENCH POSITION, DE COMMINES SAID THAT GOF CONTINUED TO DISAGREE WITH USG ASSESSMENT THAT EGYPTIANS WOULD RECOGNIZE NEED TO NEGOTIATE ONCE THEY WERE CONVINCED OUTSIDE POWERS WOULD NOT DO JOB FOR THEM. AS FOREIGN MINISTER JOBERT HAD TOLD SECRETARY ROGERS IN REYKJAVIK, EGYPTIANS NEEDED SOME PROGRESS AT LEAST IN TERMS OF LANGUAGE OF UN RESOLUTIONS. DE COMMINES ADDED THAT NEITHER HE NOR JOBERT, HOWEVER, HAD ANY ILLUSIONS THAT UN RESOLUTIONS BY THEMSELVES WOULD LEAD TO SETTLEMENT; ONLY NEGOTIATIONS COULD ACHIEVE THAT RESULT. SIMILARLY, HE NOTED THAT WHILE UNSYG VISIT TO MIDDLE EAST WAS WELCOME, NEITHER EGYPTIANS NOR FRENCH HAD ANY VERY HIGH HOPES IT WOULD DO ANYTING MORE THAN BUY TIME.
IRWIN

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED CAIRO.

SECRET

NNN

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